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L'Arche Saint Louis

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Paula Kilcoyne

New Home: Joyful House Wishlist

- Electric Tea Kettle
- Slow-Cooker (2 large)
- Dining Room Table and Chairs (seating 10)
- Folding Chairs
- Table Linens
- Area Rugs
- Bookcases (small and large)
- Piano
- Recumbent Stationary Bike
- Dressers
- Desks
- Bedside Tables
- Wireless printer/copier/scanner
- Lawn Mower
- Snow Shovels
- Outdoor chairs and rockers
- Outdoor mats
- Inflatable Mattresses
- Twin bed mattress, box spring, frame
- Napkin rings
- Maracas and tambourines

New Home *(continued from page 1)*

train. The renovations are complete, and today Joyful House is home to one core member, two live-in assistants, and a Jesuit novice who will be spending six weeks at L'Arche as part of his formation.

L'Arche St. Louis is so grateful for the generous support and donations of the greater L'Arche St. Louis community we have received over the past few months. It is such a wonderful blessing! If you or someone you know may be interested in donating items, we have included our wish list. We are excited for the next steps and the new growth that is before us. Please hold our community in your thoughts and prayers during this time of transition and new beginnings.

Kristina Roselle is the House Coordinator for Joyful House – L'Arche St. Louis

Calendar of Events

Sat. May 7 *(May 14 rain date)*
Breakfast at the Zoo

Tues. May 24, 7:30 - 9 a.m.
Breakfast with Friends

Tues. May 24, 7 p.m.
An Evening with Sue Mosteller, CSJ

Sat. June 18, 3 p.m.
Pitch for Developmental Disabilities
Cardinals vs. Rangers

Sat. August 20
Ice Cream Social

Visit larchestlouis.org
for event details.

L'ARCHE OUT LOUD

THE NEWSLETTER OF L'ARCHE ST. LOUIS
March 2016, Vol. 4 Issue 1



L'Arche St. Louis Opens a Second Home!

by Kristina Roselle

After months of planning and house-hunting, we are thrilled to announce the opening of L'Arche's second home. Joyful House at 3632 Manhattan Avenue is about one mile south of our Marshall Ave. home, now named Sunrise House. It is in a lovely residential block and rests on a half-acre of property. There are six bedrooms, a large kitchen, three spacious sitting rooms - including one with big windows in the back from which you can watch the MetroLink

continued on back page

A Smile I Chase

by April Ulinski

Richard Calcaterra moved into Sunrise House on February 15, 2016, just two weeks after I had settled in as a new assistant. We truly learned L'Arche together: developing relationships and a sense of ourselves in the household at about the same rate. Now a year has passed and Richard is an essential part of the community, his gifts bringing vigor and life to the house.

Richard is a deeply Catholic man of Italian-American heritage, the first member of L'Arche to introduce the community to Italian words, and to speak them with the éclat and zest they require. He grew up on the Hill, a traditionally Italian neighborhood close to Maplewood. He reveals his intimate knowledge of the local characters and history while leading driving tours with assistants.

Rich's storytelling powers have enlivened many a dinner conversation. He relates tales from his childhood escapades with his friend, and now housemate, Jimmy. His stories, punctuated by hand gestures, sound effects, and the instinctual rise and fall in voice of a born storyteller, draw attention and leave the room roaring. Then he sits back, his face beaming and eyes lit



Photo: Richard Calaterra

up while shaking his head in disbelief and then chuckling. "That man is a delight," says Sean. His smile "radiates peace and joy" says Maria.

Richard is indeed a delight, a man who demonstrates a deep enjoyment of essential aspects of life: a good meal, a good joke, a good friend, and a good God. He talks to Jesus as casually and intimately as any friend, and with much more regularity and ease than I do. Richard has taught me about commitment. And when I see him trade smiles and laughter with one of the assistants, I am reminded again how much can change when we enjoy each other's presence and gifts.

April Ulinski has been an assistant at L'Arche St. Louis since February 2015.

Sue Mosteller Returns to St. Louis



Sue Mosteller was the first International Leader of L'Arche after Jean Vanier, Community Leader of L'Arche Daybreak, friend and spiritual director of Henri Nouwen, and, after his death, executrix of Nouwen's literary estate. She is also a respected and beloved speaker, writer, and inspiration to many. Last year, we welcomed Sue to St. Louis and 200 people came to hear her speak about friendship, forgiveness, and life at L'Arche. We are so grateful she will return again this year.



Breakfast with Friends

May 24, 2016 - 7:30 - 9 am
SLUH High School Si Commons

If you are interested in being a table captain, contact Paula Kilcoyne at 314-799-2888.

An Evening with Sue Mosteller, CSJ

May 24, 2016 - 7pm
SLUH High School Si Commons
Free and open to the public!

Jean Vanier Receives 2015 Templeton Prize



France. This award recognizes Jean and the communities of L'Arche for revealing the central role of vulnerable people in the creation of a more just, inclusive and humane society.

The Templeton Prize, which has previously been awarded to Mother Teresa, Desmond Tutu, the Dalai Lama and others, is one of the most prestigious honors in the world, and is valued at close to 1.7 million USD. According to Vanier, "People with intellectual disabilities have unique gifts

Last May, the Templeton Foundation awarded the 2015 Templeton Prize to Jean Vanier, who founded L'Arche fifty years ago in the village of Trosly-Breuil,

of the heart and can open us to love in a special way. Isn't it because so often they have been humiliated and pushed aside as useless? They are not crying out for advancement or knowledge or power, but simply for a personal relationship of love,"

The Templeton Prize is one of the world's largest annual awards given to an individual and honours a living person who has made exceptional contributions to affirming life's spiritual dimension.

Thank You to Our Retiring Board Members

L'Arche St. Louis thanks four of our founding board members who retired from the board after many years of service:

Father Len Kraus, SJ, Ted Agniel, Wendy Sullivan, and Tom Auffenberg.

We are so grateful for their leadership, knowledge, and experience. We look forward to their continued friendship with our community.



Wendy Sullivan and Tom Auffenberg

L'Arche International: The World Off Script

L'Arche International's new web series, "As I Am", is an invitation to imagine the world differently and to rejoice in who you are as you are. View it at: www.larche.org.



Pauline places her hand-knit prayer shawl over Paula's shoulders during our community's affirmation of her as our new Community Leader, November 2014.

Community Leader Corner

RELATIONSHIP TRANSFORMATION SIGN

These key words frame the activities of L'Arche St. Louis for our 2014-2018 Mandate.

Every 4 years L'Arche communities go through a time of prayerful reflection and goal-setting for the four years ahead. The result is a written mandate, setting a direction for the next phase. My invitation to the role of Community Leader was one of the outcomes of this process for L'Arche St. Louis.

Saying yes to this call after returning home to St. Louis from L'Arche Daybreak (Toronto, Canada), where I spent 25 years, was hugely fulfilling. From my first day in L'Arche St. Louis, I sensed the transformative experience of welcome and appreciation truly alive.

At the heart, the Core Members (called "core" because they are at the center) lead us into authentic relationships of trust and compassion. The way assistants choose to come and share in the daily moments which build this sense of belonging is a small yet significant sign of hope in our city. Fifty-one years ago, our founder left titles and status to discover the hidden beauty of a life focused on society's weakest members. Now this vision thrives in 149 communities around the world.

I am excited by the desire of our members to continue to bring this jewel to more people in St. Louis. I am filled with gratitude for the ways our roots are growing deeper and for the many new friends that are finding us.

- Paula Kilcoyne

L'Arche St. Louis Reflects on New Mandate at Community Retreat Day

by Maria Fitzgerald

One sunny Saturday in October, community members, board members, family, and friends of L'Arche St. Louis joined together to celebrate the gift of L'Arche in each of our lives and to reflect on the specific calls of our community mandate:

1. To grow together in the Identity and Mission of L'Arche, so that each of us can be formed in and transformed by the spirituality and community of L'Arche.
2. To strengthen our leadership and structures.
3. To broaden our connections with the greater St. Louis community to build a mutually impactful relationship.

Our morning together was spent listening to Kevin Cullen, SJ (Board Chair) and Paula Kilcoyne (Community Leader)



break open the word, then small group discussions. We shared lunch together, then decorated tiles that will be used in both homes. We decorated apples with images that illustrated our individual gifts, and placed them on a large, painted tree. We closed the day in prayer and celebration, with a foot-washing ceremony and supper.

Simplicity by Rachel Muething

Simplicity. A word that describes many people's longings, but is rarely attainable, especially in a college setting. This world is becoming a place where being busy seems to be aligned with being happy. However, L'Arche has become, for me, an oasis from the complexity of our world. I was able to witness the ease of the L'Arche community in Mobile, Alabama on Saint Louis University's Spring Break Immersion trip last year. I am now privileged to join L'Arche Saint Louis on Tuesday evenings to share a meal, each other's company, and simplicity. No one is consumed by their phone or waiting for the next activity. Everyone is present. I am able to leave my phone in the car and experience clarity. With the added bonus of becoming a more experienced chef, along with Jim, I have been able to witness God's love and kindness through each member of the community. The peace this experience has brought me, and continues to bring me, is indescribable.

Rachel is a sophomore at Saint Louis University majoring in Elementary and Special Education and a weekly volunteer at L'Arche.



Chip takes a break from cooking to help Rachel study for exams!